Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - College and University Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) Compliance Assistance Workshop

EPA Region 4 - Atlanta

Geographic location or area of activity: Region 4 States - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina

Description of activity: Due to the apparent high level of non-compliance with TSCA PCB regulations by institutions of higher education, the Region 4 PCB Program conducted a workshop for colleges and universities in February 2007, focusing on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The PCB laws and regulations govern the management, cleanup and disposal of PCB wastes and the management of PCB-containing materials and equipment still in use. These laws and regulations were developed to prevent environmental contamination and protect human health from the variety of adverse health effects of exposure to PCBs. The purpose of the workshop was to encourage increased compliance with TSCA PCB regulations. The workshop consisted of one day of classroom presentations on the TSCA PCB regulations, inspection overview and enforcement. An on-site compliance assistance visit/demonstration inspection was conducted in the morning of the second day at Clark Atlanta University.

Attendees included representatives from eleven historically black colleges and universities. In addition, the participants included representatives from the three State PCB Programs receiving funds to conduct PCB inspections on EPA's behalf. One hundred percent of the attendees responding to an end of workshop questionnaire indicated an increase in understanding of the TSCA PCB regulations. Sixty-two percent of the college/university attendees responding to the questionnaire indicated that their management practices would improve as a result of the workshop. In the discussion session at the end of the workshop, the college/university attendees all indicated that they would ensure compliance with the PCB regulations or encourage their management to ensure compliance.

Interagency partners: Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Environmental Services Branch, Land Division; Kentucky Division of Waste Management, PCB Program; Tennessee Division of Solid Waste, PCB Program

Local partners: Morris Brown College; Morehouse College; Alabama State University; Spelman College; Clark-Atlanta University; Rust College; Winston-Salem State University; Benedict College; Jackson State University; Fisk University; Tuskegee University



PCB Outreach to Colleges and Universities